## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 EUR-12 /106 W

-----099835 181413Z /53

R 181208Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7290 INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

**UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5253** 

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, IS
SUBJECT:REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION ON TARIFF TREATMENT OF LEATHER
WEARING APPAREL - TSUS 791.74

**REF: STATE 043352** 

1. MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY OFFICOALS REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN CLARIFYING RECENT CHANGES IN TARIFF TREATMENT OF LEATHER WEATING APPAREL. PARAGRAPH 6 REFTEL REPORTED THAT PREVIOUS TSUS 791.75 CATEGORY HAS BEEN REPLACED BY TSUS 791.76 (WHICH REMAINS ON GSP LIST) AND 791.74, WHICH IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR GSP. LATTER CATEGORY DEFINED AS "WEARING APPAREL NOT SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED FOR, OF LEATHER: IN PART OF TEXTILE MATERIALS THE AGGREGATE WEIGHT OF WHICH EXCEEDS THE WIGHT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL NON-TEXTILE MATERIAL CONTAINED THEREIN".

2. APPARENTLY, THIS DEFINITION IS BEING USED TO EXCLUDE FROM GSP TREATMENT LEATHER GARMENTS WHOSE TEXTILE CONTENTS (RAYON LININGS, COTTON PARTS) WEIGHT LESS THAN THE LEATHER BUT MORE THAN THE BUTTONS ON THESE GARMENTS. IF SO, MINISTRY OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THIS IS UNREASONABLE INTERPRETATION WHICH CAUSES INJURY TO ISRAEL. UNCLASSIFIED

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3. LEATHER WEARING APPAREL IS AN IMPORTANT EXPORT ITEM FOR ISRAEL. EXPORTS TO U.S.BENEFITTING FROM GSP IN 1976
TOTALED \$6.6 MILLION. UNDER PRESENT INTERPRETATION,
MOST OF THESE EXPORTS WILL NOW PAY REGULAR DUTIES.
MAJOR MANUFACTURER OF LEATHER WEARING APPAREL
EXPLAINED HE COULD NOT SHIP HIS APPAREL WITHOUT

BUTTONS SINCE HE HAS NO FACILITIES IN U.S. FOR SEWING ON BUTTONS HE STATED THAT DUTY WOULD PRODUCE A LOSS ON HIS SALES TO U.S WITH POSSIBILITY OF CLOSING DOWN BUSINESS AND LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR 1,000 WORKERS. GOI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BRING THIS PROBLEM UP IN ANY FUTURE CONSULTATION ON GSP WITH USG. DUNNIGAN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: LEATHER, TARIFFS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

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Subject: REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION ON TARIFF TREATMENT OF LEATHER WEARING APPAREL - TSUS 791.74

TAGS: ETRD, IS To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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